

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please insert the following paragraph beginning at line 2 of page 1 as follows:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/487,353, filed January 19, 2000, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 1 as follows:

The present invention is related to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/234,203, filed January 20, 1999, entitled "INTRAVASCULAR CATHETER WITH COMPOSITE REINFORCEMENT"; now U.S. Patent No. 6,171,295, issued January 9, 2001; and U.S. Patent Application No. ~~(unknown)~~ 09/487,359, filed on even date herewith, entitled "INTRAVASCULAR CATHETER WITH AXIAL FIBER", the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 8 as follows:

A manifold 24 is connected to the proximal end 22 of the shaft 12 which includes an interior (not visible) in fluid communication with the lumen 18 of the elongate shaft 12. The manifold 24 includes a standard fitting 26 for connection to a fluid source such as a syringe. A strain relief 28 is disposed between the manifold 24 and the proximal end 22 of the shaft 12 in order to reduce the tendency of the shaft to kink therebetween. The proximal end 22 of the elongate shaft 12 may extend through the strain relief 28 for connection to the manifold 24. Alternatively, the distal end of the strain relief 28 may be connected to the proximal end 22 of the elongate shaft 12 with the proximal end of the strain relief ~~[[12]]~~ 28 connected to the manifold 24.